

Report from the RHIC Users Executive Committee

RHIC S&T Review

June 27-28 2011

Helen Caines - Yale University - Past Chair

Current committee - elections last week

Chairs (3 year cycle, 1 year in each position)

Chair: Peter Steinberg (BNL)

Chair Elect: Mei Bai (BNL)

Past Chair: Helen Caines (Yale)

Elected members (3 year terms -staggered)

Christine Aidala (LANL)

Jiangyong Jia (Stony Brook)

Brant Johnson (BNL)

Lijuan Ruan (BNL)

Cesar Luiz de Silva (LANL)

Gang Wang (UCLA)

Anne Sickles (BNL)

Anselm Vossen (UIC)

Zhangbu Xu (BNL)

Ex-Officio

Sam Aronson

Doon Gibbs

Tom Ludlam

Phil Pile

Thomas Roser

Steve Vigdor

Susan White-DePace

Kelly Guiffreda

Elected student/post-doc members (1 year terms)

David Kleinjan (UC Riverside)

Baldo Sahlmueller (Stony Brook)

RHIC/AGS users executive group

Members:

External Users and BNL employees from:

RHIC

AGS

National Space Radiation Laboratory (NSRL)

Accelerator Test Facility (ATF)

Tandem

Charter:

Two way conduit for exchange of information between the laboratory administration and the users

- Users inform laboratory administration of needs
- Laboratory administration informs users of current and future plans

This exchange is very successful

User demographics (not BNL employees)

Collaboration	2009	2010	2011 (pending)
Total RHIC	937	859	710 (354)
Faculty, Staff	463	405	403
Post Docs	58	70	57
Students	338	311	203
Remote users	77	73	47
AGS, ATF, NSRL, Tandem	543	489	449 (59)
ATLAS, DayaBay, LSST, NYBlue	654	490	335 (337)
Foreign Users	1097	945	751
Users from sensitive countries	363	318	324

Collab	2009	2010	2011 (pending)
RHIC	937	859	710 (354)
PHENIX	471	426	370 (160)
STAR	404	386	313 (155)
BRAHMS	27	15	4 (16)
PHOBOS	21	14	- (13)
eRHIC/EIC	17	19	21 (9)
pp2pp			1
AnDY			1 (1)

Only allowed on one experiment

Active - Checked in at GUV

Pending - approved/renewed haven't checked in to GUV

Regular meetings

Monthly UEC Meetings

- Closed business meeting
- General meeting, often with an invited guest to discuss a current issue (housing, cafeteria, management etc)

Open Forums

- DNP meeting in Santa Fe
- Winter open forum at BNL

Annual Users Meeting - June 20-24

Regular BNL “3 Chairs” meeting - New for 2011

- Chairs of RHIC/AGS, CFN, NSLS meet with BNL- Greatly appreciated initiative from BNL !
- Common concerns more readily identified
- Larger group polled when questions raised

Interactions with management

BNL management all very responsive

“3 Chairs” meeting initiated in response to worries about distancing of management from Users

EMails/Questions answered usually within 24 hours

Specific meetings organized upon request - i.e. housing concerns

Various members of management have attended our monthly meetings, and Open sessions upon request to speak to users

On the whole very positive

User Involvement in future development

Open meeting at DNP meeting Santa Fe, Nov 2010

Topic “Planning RHIC’s Future”

Steve Vigdor - BNL perspective

Nu Xu - STAR perspective

Dave Morrison - PHENIX perspective

Followed by open floor discussion

Majority of Users interested in BNL’s vision of long-term plans to evolve into eRHIC

Most of the RHIC Users at the meeting attended this evening meeting - **there is interest, and activity, from Users about future**

User Involvement in future development

Annual Users meeting - organization Peter S. and Steve V.

Series of workshops focused on the future of RHIC and eRHIC science and the detectors and machine upgrades needed to bring it about

~200 Users registered

Lively and productive discussion all week



Mon: Topical workshops: Spin, HF, Jets&High p_T , BES, Hydro&Soft

Tues: Long term options and near-term planning, Decadal plans

Wed: Decadal plans, eRHIC

Thurs: Run 11, Thesis awards, eRHIC, Agency perspectives

Fri: Panel and Community discussion on future

Outreach Activities

USA Science and Engineering Festival

Users group raised BNL's awareness of the festival
October on the Capitol Mall

>500 leading science and engineering org. had stands
BNL and National User Facility Organization attended
BNL active members of NUFO

Enormous positive attendance > 500,000

"I didn't know the USA was involved in such interesting and important research"

OFFICIAL PARTNER



APS Climate Assessment - Status of Women

Discussions between UEC and Sam Aronson led to the climate assessment survey by the APS Committee on the Status of Women at BNL August 2010

Would be interesting to know the outcome nearly one year later

BNL have been sent preliminary report
In discussion with APS about some facts in the report

Housing - Looming issue

Closure of 1 Dorm + Cottages + Increase in summer students this year → **Housing disaster for Users during end of run**
Essentially no rooms available since May/June - **unacceptable for a users facility requiring people to sit shifts**

Impacting Users ability to fulfill experimental duties
Reports of people sleeping on floors, couches, sharing beds

Hotels in area are available BUT ~twice cost and offsite
Many non-US collaborators don't have cars/licenses
Can't cook in hotel - another cost increase
upside - so far hotels bending over backwards to help - shuttles provided that are coming when booked

Thanks to PHENIX/STAR/Theory Assistants did incredible work helping users find places - essentially doing housing offices job

Housing - Looming issue

Plans to close more dorms
situation worse not better

Next year fewer students for summer program

Is this assured?

Applaud outreach program - shouldn't be at detriment of Users

Runs often go into the summer, same problem each time

Upgrades/detector servicing in summer even if no run

Building of new NSLS2 housing

Too little too late?

Rumours only for NSLS Users - I was told otherwise but rumor rampant at BNL - maybe (another) official statement needed

New 2 week window cancelation policy

Many foreign users don't know about visas 2 weeks in advance

cancelation policy OK but can terms be relaxed

Summary

Interaction between Users and BNL management generally good

3 Chairs meeting initiative

Attendance at Users meetings staying up

Users interested in their possible future at BNL

Growing concern about affordable housing availability at BNL

Grant requests assume cheap housing available

Limited pool of money if more goes to Universities for travel to BNL, less money somewhere else

BNL and Users group will continue fruitful discussions on all aspects of life at BNL